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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Between 6-20 March the Communist Party of Argentina (CPA) held two meetings in the towns of Avellaneda and San Martin on the outskirts of Buenos Aires.
2. At the meeting in Avellaneda all the members of the CPA Executive Committee were present, as well as other Communist leaders, including Manuel Esteban Espinosa, Italo Grassi, and Pedro Tadioli. This meeting was held to discuss the details of the last elections in Buenos Aires Province and the forthcoming elections in the Province of San Luis.
3. The meeting in San Martin was attended by various members of the CPA Central Committee and by Communist labor leaders Antonia Banegas, Normando Iscaro, and Rubens Iscaro. In San Martin the Communists exchanged views on the future activities of the Movimiento Pro Democratizacion e Independencia de los Sindicatos (MPDIS).

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4. The MPDIS is an ineffectual pro-CTAL labor organization which was designed by Communists to represent them in the Argentine labor scene and to serve as their contact with the CTAL, which has had difficulty in operating in Argentina because of the dissociation of the CTAL from the Confederacion General de Trabajo (CGT). The idea for the creation of the MPDIS was conceived in February 1949 when Vicente Lombardo Toledano wrote to Rubens Iscaro suggesting to him the creation of a pro-peace labor organization and inviting him to the Paris Peace Congress in April 1949. Before he departed for Paris, Iscaro laid the ground-work for the formation of the MPDIS, which appeared initially on 1 May 1949. The appearance of the MPDIS was announced by a manifesto signed by the Comision Obrera por la Paz composed of the following Argentine Communist leaders: Antonia Banegas, Pedro Chiaranti, Rodolfo Gomez, Rubens Iscaro, Vicente Marischi, Irma Othar, Irene Rodriguez, Eduardo Seljo, and Juan C. Zarate.
5. The MPDIS is in contact with the CTAL, and through Enrique Rodriguez, Secretary of the Union General de Trabajo (UGT) of Uruguay, maintains correspondence with Enrique Ramirez y Ramirez, Secretary of the Central Committee of the CTAL in Mexico. The MPDIS, in an effort to foment labor unrest, is attempting to exert its influence on the Construction Workers' Union, the Restaurant and Food Workers' Union, the Meat Workers' Union, and the Railroad Workers' Union, which were once bulwarks of Communist strength. However, the task of the MPDIS is exceedingly difficult because

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of the official control over labor and the close scrutiny which the government maintains on the activities of the MPDIS. According to source, the influence which the MPDIS actually has is negligible. The following Communists are MPDIS leaders in Argentina at the present time: Antonia Banegas, Jose Brandeburgo, Antonio Cabrera, Muzio M. Girardi, and Rubens Iscaro.

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